

# NEW WESTMINSTER COMMUNITY GARDENING SOCIETY

May/June 2020

## YOUR NWCGS

- Have a photo you want to share?
- Have an experience you'd like to share?
- Have a question?

Post on the NWCGS Facebook's page to engage with your fellow society members!

@newwestgardens

## COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

As we continue to navigate these unprecedented times, the NWCGS would like to request that all members respect and follow the recommendations placed upon us by the Province of BC and the Federal Government of Canada.

While at the gardens:

- If you are sick, stay home.
- Maintain 2m distance between you and all other garden members. If there are too many people in the garden to maintain proper social distancing, please return to the garden at a later time.
- It is expected that all members wear gloves while at the gardens.
- Wash your hands before and after using the gardens.
- We understand that our members may want to show off their beautiful gardens however, we ask that you do not bring visitors to the garden and that the size of families attending a plot at any time be limited to two people.

If you do not feel safe using the gardens during this time, please reach out to your garden coordinator or [nwcommunitygarden@gmail.com](mailto:nwcommunitygarden@gmail.com) and a "Please Water Me" sign can be placed in your plot. Further, if any members are in need of seeds, or other NWCGS related assistance, please feel free to post on the Facebook page (@newwestgardens) to see if any other members can help out.



Please check your email, the garden sheds, and Facebooks for updates on the COVID-19 precautions as the situation develops.

We thank all our members for their support in following these recommendations. Let's all help each other stay healthy, happy, and through this time.



### **Garden Announcements:**

**City Hall:** *City Hall garden is in full swing for the new season. We have welcomed 3 new gardeners so far and are still filling our 1 remaining plot with a lucky waitlist member.*

*We thank everyone who is doing their part and remaining physically distanced while gardening, not coming to the garden if they are sick, and washing hands before and after using communal supplies.*

*During a time when it is difficult for some members to get to the store and buy plants, we welcome all sharing of excess seeds or starter plants in the shed or through the City Hall Facebook group to share with your fellow garden members.*

**Simcoe:** *Planting season is well underway at Simcoe, and it won't be long before the blueberries and raspberries fruit up!*

*We'd like to take the opportunity to remind gardeners that everyone is expected to wear gloves when accessing all communal equipment, including the shed, due to the ongoing pandemic.*

*Please also continue to maintain an appropriate physical distance from your fellow gardeners.*

**Saint Mary's:** *At the St Mary's Park Garden we have been asked to maintain a 2 metre distance from others at all times. If the garden is busy, we have been asked to wait for others to leave before working in our plots. So far this has worked well for everyone. Gardeners have been asked to use their own hand tools if they have them or to use garden gloves when using communal tools. During our start up meeting we discussed how to keep communal tools safe and it was decided to provide soap for tool washing as there were concerns about bleach. Hand soap has been provided in the shed so that gardeners can wash their hands when they arrive and as they leave. Visitors have been discouraged, both friends of gardeners and passers-by. Our first meeting of the season was held over zoom and it was a great way to introduce new gardeners to the group.*

5 of 16 plots assigned to new gardeners for this season. One of school plots assigned to an individual gardener for this season. Two donation plots will be worked to help feed people in need in the community, especially important this year. Organization of work on donation plots has been reorganized, instead of a donation crew of gardeners taking this as their volunteer task, all gardeners will sign up for one or two weeks of donation plot duties, with one gardener coordinating the work of the weekly crews.

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*Nature is pleased with simplicity. And nature is no dummy. – Isaac Newton*

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## **ACCESSIBLE GARDENING**

The accessible garden plot project has been delayed until 2021 due to COVID-19. In the meantime we will be communicating with local community groups and the City to ensure the best fit.

If you have experience with, or questions about, accessible gardening please reach out!

## **PREVIOUS INFORMATION**

Find all previous newsletters, meeting minutes, and other information online at our website.



Contact Us

**New Westminster Community Gardening Society**

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